

Introduced by Senator Ortiz

February 11, 1999

An act to add Section 42238.25 to the Education Code, relating to school district attendance.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 376, as introduced, Ortiz. School districts: declining enrollment: military base closures.

Existing law requires the county superintendent of schools to determine a revenue limit for each school district in the county for each fiscal year. Existing law authorizes a school district that experiences a decline in units of average daily attendance (ADA) in excess of 8% due to a military base closure elect to receive adjustments to its ADA calculation to ameliorate the effects of the decline in enrollment. Existing law requires the school district to repay the State School Fund the amount augmented as a result of the adjustment pursuant to a 10-year schedule.

This bill would, notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, make a school district that would experience a temporary decline in enrollment due to a closure of a military facility that will be offset by projected future enrollment growth, eligible for an adjustment to its ADA to provide bridge funding until fiscal year 2006–07, pursuant to a prescribed calculation.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: no.



The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 42238.25 is added to the
2 Education Code, immediately following Section 42238.2,
3 to read:

4 42238.25. (a) The Legislature finds and declares all of
5 the following:

6 (1) The closure of a military base can result in a severe
7 decline in enrollment that is outside of a school district's
8 ability to control.

9 (2) When enrollment declines sharply, a school district
10 might reduce its marginal expenditures, such as for
11 teachers, without affecting the quality of its educational
12 program, but reducing its total expenditures in
13 proportion to the decline in enrollment could result in the
14 closure of one or more schoolsites or significant
15 reductions in educational programs.

16 (3) A school district that experiences a temporary
17 decline in enrollment due to a recent military base
18 closure may be required to make significant expenditure
19 reductions that could damage the educational program,
20 notwithstanding the fact that the school district may be
21 projected to experience enrollment growth in the near
22 future due to a high level of new residential construction
23 or otherwise. Without supplemental funding, the school
24 district would be forced to reduce expenditures in this
25 instance only to restore the expenditures within a few
26 years.

27 (4) It is appropriate state policy to provide a school
28 district described in paragraph (3) with "bridge" funding
29 during the short period of enrollment loss so as to protect
30 the school district's educational program from temporary
31 reductions that would damage the educational program.

32 (b) Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the
33 contrary, the Superintendent of Public Instruction shall,
34 for each eligible school district as set forth in subdivision
35 (c), do all of the following:

36 (1) Determine the average daily attendance for the
37 school district for the 1999–2000 fiscal year pursuant to
38 Section 42238.5. For the purposes of this section, this

1 average shall be known as the base year average daily
2 attendance.

3 (2) For each year, beginning in fiscal year 2000–01 and
4 continuing until fiscal year 2006–07, or until the district's
5 average daily attendance exceeds its base year average
6 daily attendance, subtract the average daily attendance
7 determined pursuant to Section 42238.5 for the then
8 current fiscal year from the base year average daily
9 attendance. If this amount is less than zero, it shall be
10 deemed to be zero.

11 (3) Multiply the difference determined pursuant to
12 paragraph (2) by 0.75, and round to the nearest whole
13 number.

14 (4) The result determined pursuant to paragraph (3)
15 shall be added to the district's average daily attendance
16 determined pursuant to Section 42238.5 for the then
17 current fiscal year. This result shall not be used for
18 determining the funded level of average daily attendance
19 in any subsequent fiscal year.

20 (c) A school district shall be eligible for allocations
21 pursuant to this section if it meets all of the following
22 criteria:

23 (1) The school district had at least 5,000 units of
24 average daily attendance in the 1999–2000 fiscal year.

25 (2) The school district experienced a loss due to the
26 closure of a military base of at least 8 percent of its 1998–99
27 average daily attendance.

28 (3) The school district is projected to generate
29 increased enrollment from new housing development
30 that will more than offset the loss in enrollment due to the
31 military base closure by the 2006–07 fiscal year.

32 (4) The school district has taken significant steps to
33 reduce its expenditures during the period of enrollment
34 loss.

